

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Akihiro YASUDA et al.

Group Art Unit: 2852

Appln. No. : 10/575,353

Examiner: S. L. Braes

Filed : April 11, 2006

Confirmation No.: 9434

For : FIXING APPARATUS

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop AMENDMENT
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir :

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98,
supplemental to the Information Disclosure Statement that was previously filed on July 6, 2006,
Applicants hereby bring to the attention of the Examiner a Japanese Notice of Reason for
Rejection dated January 15, 2008, with respect to patent family member Japanese Patent
Application No. 2005-514745, in which the following documents were cited:

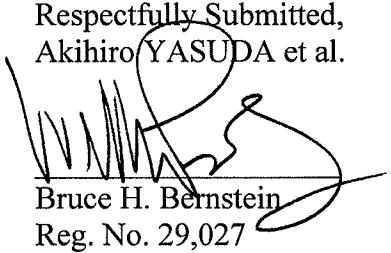
- (1) JP 2001-125407 A, which is submitted together with an English language Abstract
and an English language partial translation thereof; and
- (2) JP 2003-123961 A. Applicants note that this document was previously cited in the
Information Disclosure Statement of July 6, 2006 and has been indicated as
considered by the Examiner. Thus, a copy of this document is not provided
herewith.

The relevance of these documents, as ascertained with respect to the Japanese claims by
the Japanese Examiner, is set forth in the Japanese Notice of Reason for Rejection.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the above material and cite the same. A copy of above-noted document (1), including the noted English language Abstract and partial translation, is attached hereto, and is listed on an attached Form PTO-1449. A copy of the Japanese Notice of Reason for Rejection, including an English language translation thereof, is also attached hereto. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached Form, and to return a copy of the completed Form to Applicants with an official communication in the present application.

Since this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted subsequent to the issuance of a Notice of Allowance, Applicants have included herewith a check in the amount of \$180.00 to cover the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17 (p). Applicants furthermore certify that each item of new information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement (i.e., above-noted document (1)) was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully Submitted,
Akihiro YASUDA et al.

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